gravity flow by constructing 185 kilometres long canal including two tunnels for an estimated cost of Rs. 480 crores was received at the Centre in February, 1985. It envisages irrigation to an area of 1, 21,408 hectares annually in Nalganda District besides providing drinking water to Nalganda town. Subsequently, in October, 1986 this proposals was superceded by another alternative proposals which envisaged lifting waters from the foreshore of Nagarjunasagar reservoir at an estimated cost of Rs. 353 crores to realise early benefits.

(c) The Project envisages utilisation of surplus water over and above the allocation made by Krishna Water Disputes tribunal Award. As the availability of surplus water is not certain, the project was sent back to the State Government in June, 1987 and they are required to clearly establish the water availability on long term basis.

Kadban reservoir Project

7016. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received modified project report of the Kadban Reservoir form the Government of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to include this Project in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). While the Eighth Plan proposals have not been finalised, inclusion of a project depends on its techno-economic acceptability.

Desalination Plants

7017. SHRI RAM NAIK: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any public sector undertaking has developed desalination plant indigenously on the lines of Israel;

(b) if so, the names of such public undertakings and the number of plants developed so far, the places if their installation and the results achieved;

(c) whether the Central Ground Water Board had conducted research and study to assess the ground water potential and the cause of salinity of most of the tube wells in VASAIVIRAR area of Maharashtra;

(d) if so, the findings of the Board; and

(e) if not, whether the Government will consider directing the Board to undertake such a study and report in a time bound programme?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected.

(c) to (e). The Study by Central Ground Water Board, to assess the ground water potential and cause of salinity in VASAIVIR area is currently in hand and results are awaited.

Availability of Steel in Sail, Cochin Branch

7018. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state: